SOCCER NEWS

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission by post as a periodical.

PRICE 1/-

The Official Magazine of the
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

JULY 4, 1959.

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★ BIG TALK GETS BIGGER

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Preston Cops A Heart!

Mr. TOMMY WALKER

First Division club, Preston, can now add the name of Tommy Walker, Secretary-Manager of Heart of Midlothian, to its list of Patrons.

(see page 10)

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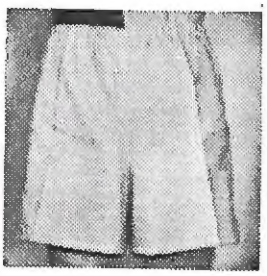

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The Magazine of the

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ASSOCIATION

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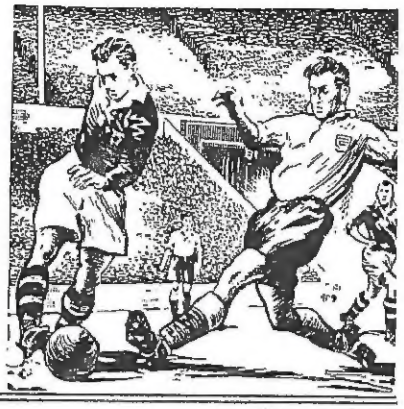

Vol. 12, No. 13. July 4, 1959

TOP LAWS MAN BLASTS GRANDSTAND REFEREES

Hutchison Raps "Uninformed" Writers Who Belittle Referees in Print

The faultfinding, sometimes sarcastic views of Bill Fleming, Owen Howard, and others which have included references to alarm clocks for referees and "flag-happy" linesmen must be considered distasteful by all fair-minded fans, and very close to being insulting by the referees themselves.

For instance, the accusation that Referee Lonsdale allowed the first half of one of the Victoria-South Australia matches to run overtime is denied by others who kept time on the game.

But it is for the purpose of preventing just such controversy that soccer Laws 5 and 7 nominate the referee as THE timekeeper, and permit him SOLE and ABSOLUTE DISCRETION in the matter of "time on."

Referee Fred Hutchison, Chairman of Examiners of the Victorian Soccer Referees' Association, feels that news reporters sometimes make controversial statements deliberately to maintain interest in their articles, and hence there is little point in debating their printed views.

However, he says that questions and opinions about "flag-happy linesmen" aired by "Observer" ("Soccer News," June 20) should not be allowed to go unchallenged.

Hutchison states that the queries themselves brand "Observer" as being ill-informed.

"How any ex-referee can make such statements is beyond comprehension," says Fred.

He quotes this question and viewpoint from "Observer's" letter to prove his point: "How can a player with the ball at his feet be penalised when one of his team-mates is clearly in an off-side position, provided that the player who is off-side does not call for the ball or signal for a pass? I have seen this happen repeatedly at Olympic Park, the linesman obviously anticipating that the off-side player is going to get the ball."

Challenging this conclusion, Hutchison states that, in his 12 years of continuous service with the whistle in England, and Australia, he has never seen the player in possession of the ball penalised whilst he remains in possession.

"He cannot, in fact, be penalised since he is the player last playing the ball," says Fred.

"The mere fact that a player calls for a ball does not in itself decide whether he is in fact off-side or not," Fred continues. "The main factors are, firstly, his position on the field at the time the ball is played forward by a member of his own team, and secondly, whether by his position and/or actions he can be deemed to be seeking some advantage by being in an off-side position."

Hutchison says that "Observer's" line about "linesmen obviously anticipating that the off-side player is going to get the ball" indicates his lack of knowledge of the law.

"It must be understood," Fred explains, "that whether he gets the ball or not does not alter the fact that a player is off-side if his off-side position gives his side any possible advantage."

Fred denies that there is such "frequent and blatant penalising of teams" that it leads to "unpleasantness between players, supporters, and referees."

Laws Expert

Mr. Fred Hutchison, Grade 1 Referee and Chairman of Examiners of the Victorian Soccer Referees' Association, deplores the ill-informed, fault-finding of "grandstand referees."

He says that it is the fact that too many players, officials, and spectators lack an understanding of the laws of soccer which causes "heat" and incidents.

Hutchison does not deny that referees are as liable to error as any other human being.

"Of course, referees make mistakes," he agrees. "But surely we must all realise that, without the system which places a single arbitrator in control of a match to decide all points of fact open to dispute, we could never finish a game."

Chairs V.A.S.F.A. Council

Mr. JIM PAUL
During the absence of Mr. Bill Thomas, who is on long-service leave, Deputy Chairman Jim Paul will be Acting Chairman of the State Council.

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at 11.15 a.m.
Each Saturday morning a Soccer personality will be interviewed.

STATION 3AR
"Sporting Magazine"
6.30-7 p.m. for Soccer Preview.

Big Talk Makes More Big Talk

And Proves Absolutely Nothing

Last week we appreciated and published an appeal by Mr. L. K. Stone, the Victorian correspondent of Sydney's "Soccer World," that everyone concerned should "help to seal the breach between the two leading soccer States."

Mr. Stone could help a great deal if he were to direct the same appeal toward N.S.W. fans. It might help to stop the offensive bragging which goes on in both States and which proves absolutely nothing.

"We could dance all night and still beat you," says Victorian partisan, Bill Fleming. But that is modesty of the shrinking-violet type compared to the tirade received from Mr. Lewis Ganter, of Sydney.

TITLE HOLDERS

Mr. Ganter apparently thinks, quite wrongly in our opinion, that unavoidable public references to the fact that Victoria holds the soccer championship of Australia and the British F.A. Trophy are bald claims to Australia-wide superiority.

Everybody knows, of course, that a reigning champion is not always the best there is, due to complicating factors that obtain in any sport at various times. That could apply to Victoria's soccer championship, too.

But Mr. Ganter writes: "We in Sydney are getting sick of the Melbourne Press and some soccer officials for the way they are trying to make the Melbourne public believe that Victorian soccer is the best in Australia."

Then he spoils his case by outbragging the braggarts, thus: "Sydney is so far ahead of any other State that even a N.S.W. Reserve XI would run out easy winners against Victoria, or any other State for that matter."

WORLD BEATERS?

Mr. Ganter suggests that there are commentators "in Melbourne who speak through their hats." It is difficult to decide through just which part of Mr. Ganter's wearing apparel these gems penetrated to find their way into his letter.

"Soccer experts agree that Sydney has at the present moment a soccer team equal to any of the sides which have toured Australia since the war."

And this:

"The visiting team, Heart of Midlothian, was so impressed by the Federation's 6-1 win over world-famous Costa Rica (sic) that it talked itself out of a match with the glamour Federation XI."

And this:

"The Hearts know very well that they have no players to match Baumgartner, Tamandl, or Jaros, and they were reluctant to tarnish their great record in Australia."

Mighty big talk, Mr. Ganter!

BLAST — OR BURP?

Nor can we follow the logic of this blast from Mr. Ganter—or is it a burp?

"I have noticed the poor coverage given to soccer by Melbourne papers, and on the strength of this, allow me to question the competence of 'Sun,' 'Age,' and 'Herald' writers. They cannot know their soccer."

This is the first time that we have heard it suggested that the length of a story is the measure of its quality.

However, we most certainly agree with one of Mr. Ganter's statements, and recommend that he himself should live—and write—by the fine principle that he has written into it:

"These petty jealousies between States are stupid, and if we are to achieve world standing we must all contribute and make concessions, and, above all, incompetent newsmen should certainly stop writing utter rubbish."

THERE is a footnote to our reference to Glasgow referee, Jack Mowat, last week on this page. We told you then that Jack refereed the European Cup semi-final between Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid. Because of his perfect control of the game, a Madrid newspaper has named him as the world's No. 1 referee. They must think he's pretty good at home, too—he was selected to handle the Scottish Cup Final between St. Mirren and Aberdeen.

THE WORLD OF SOCCER

with
JIM COOK
and
other
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ITALIAN television interests pay approximately £35,000 to the clubs for the right to film one match each Sunday, and telecast the film the same night. To avoid loss of gate, no announcement of which match is to be televised is permitted before the games begin.

★ ★ ★

GLASGOW RANGERS recently received a rise in their wages. They are now said to be the highest paid soccer players in the United Kingdom.

★ ★ ★

LEYTON ORIENT are without a manager since Alec Stock resigned. It is rumoured that the club may appoint Eddie Bailey, who is on the playing staff, as their new chief. Bailey was formerly a Tottenham Hotspur and England inside-forward.

★ ★ ★

NORTH VIETNAM football has been growing rapidly. There are now nearly 2,000 teams competing in numerous leagues. And they play bare footed. Surely there must be an opening there for an enterprising boot salesman!

★ ★ ★

ARSENAL is not noted for signing Irish players, but it is expected that manager George Swindin will clinch the transfer of Ballymena's star outside-left, Norman Clark. Incidentally, Ballymena is managed by former Charlton player, Alex. McCrae.

★ ★ ★

The current German National soccer team includes two teenagers. They are centre-forward Uwe Seeler, and left-half, Horst Szymaniak.

★ ★ ★

WOLVES, champions of the English First Division, were fined by the Football Association recently for illegal approaches to schoolboy soccer stars. We wouldn't fine State League clubs for this in Victoria—we'd pin medals on them!

RANGERS, Scottish League champions, defeated Arsenal 3-0 at Highbury before the close of last season.

★ ★ ★

WE still have difficulty in believing some of the figures that come in. We re-publish this one without any guarantee as to its accuracy. With an eye to the 1960 Olympic Games, Italy has formed a National Amateur Football Association, and it has been stated that 50,000 amateur clubs have registered with the Association. Even if there has been a misprint, and the item should read "players" instead of "clubs," it's still a very healthy figure—and professional football in Italy should eventually gain considerably from the move.

★ ★ ★

GOALKEEPER, Sam Bartram, played 613 games for Charlton before joining York City as Manager.

★ ★ ★

Twenty-one-year-old South African, Vernon Wentzel, who joined Scottish First Division club, Kilmarnock, last November, played 22 games with Killie's senior team at centre-forward during the season, and scored 20 goals. Wentzel is also a first-class cricketer and hockey player.

★ ★ ★

AUSTRIA has declined an invitation to take part in the 1962 World Cup series which will be held in Chile. Reasons given were the difficulties expected in arranging long leaves for players, the congestion of fixtures—and the South American climate.

★ ★ ★

Glasgow Celtics have invited European Cup holders, Real Madrid to play the first match under their new floodlights. They are prepared to guarantee the Spanish club £5,000 for the one match.

INSIDE-FORWARD, Matt Dunsmore, of West Bromwich Albion, has transferred to Southend United.

★ ★ ★

IT is rumoured that Pele, glamour player of the World Cup winner, Brazil. will be transferred to Real Madrid for the fabulous fee of £100,000!

★ ★ ★

EINTRACHT Frankfurt is leading F.K. Pirmasens in Division "A" of the West German premiership. In Division "B," Offenbacher Kickers are one point in front of Hamburger S.V.

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WORLD CUP CHAMP MALTA MEETS HOLLAND

Hungary v. Czechoslovakia Pipe-Opener in Thrill-Packed Double Header

The brace of first-round matches scheduled for this Sunday's resumption of the LAIDLAW "WORLD CUP" series at Olympic Park are expected to produce cup-tie thrillers of the spectacular variety.

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The first match, commencing at 1.30 p.m., will give spectators a preview of a future State League side. The Hungarian team is to all intents and purposes the First Division South's undefeated, runaway leader Melbourne.

Melbourne has produced 69 goals in 9 matches in a league that is reasonably strong, particularly in the upper half, and whether this team takes the field as Melbourne or Hungary, it must be capable of good, entertaining football.

Hungary's opponent, Czechoslovakia has weakened over the years, and looks the loser in this one. For some reason, the emigration of Czechs to Australia has fallen away, and the sponsoring club, Slavia, has been unable to recruit compatriots for several years.

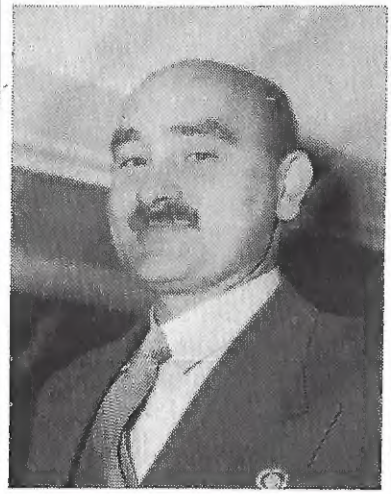
At 3 p.m., World Cup holders, Malta, will defend the Cup for the first time against Holland—that is practically just another way of saying that this is a match between joint State League leaders, George Cross and Wilhelmina.

A meeting between these two in a League match is a powerful, hard-hitting attraction. In a knock-out competition, the general effect can resemble some of the more successful Woomera blast-offs.

George Cross has beaten Wilhelmina in their last two meetings—a night soccer semi-final and a State League match.

It's up to Holland to turn the tables now—if it can!

EXPECTS BIG CROWD



Mr. John Oliphant, Secretary of the Sunday International Committee, thinks that, as crowd-pleasers, this week's Sunday League Cup-ties are "a pair of naturals."

SOCCER IN MALTA

Thanks to local supporter, Charlie Buttigieg, we are able to give Maltese fans some news from home.

Valetta ran away with Malta's Division 1 Championship for the 1958-59 season which finished recently.

Defeated only once in 14 games, Valetta finished with 23 points and a goal average of 39-11. Runner-up, Sliema, was 7 points behind.

With only one round to go, and the championship in the bag for Valetta, interest switched to the relegation position. This was the picture:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Valetta	14	10	3	1	39	11	23
Sliema W.	12	8	0	4	28	18	16
Hamrun S.	13	7	1	5	29	24	15
Floriana	13	5	2	6	21	24	12
Marsa	13	3	4	6	15	15	10
Hibs	13	4	2	7	13	21	10
Birkirkara	13	4	2	7	20	30	10
Rabat	13	3	2	8	18	30	8

Valetta's last League match was against Marsa, and a note of interest creeps in with the names of the players, some of which are familiar to Victorian fans.

Each team had a Borg, and an Azzopardi. Valetta had two Zammits and a Grech, and Marsa listed a Buttigieg and an Abela.

In the Second Division matches, these familiar names crop up: Bugeja, Pisani, Bonnici, Camilleri, and Scicluna.

JUVENTUS-POLONIA THRILLER VOTED TOPS

Classy, Robust Game Pleases Big Crowd

A king-sized crowd of nearly 9,000 saw what was probably the hardest, fastest, and classiest League match in years last Sunday at Olympic Park when Juventus tossed Polonia 2-0.

Fans MAY recall games with more vigor. Others MAY say that there have been faster matches. Some supporters MAY suggest that they have seen League fixtures that were superior to this one regarding class.

But it is doubtful whether anyone can remember a match between two local sides which combined all of these qualities for the full 90 minutes.

Although Juventus captured more of the attack than Polonia, there was not really a margin of 2 goals between the two teams.

But Juventus had one advantage over Polonia that was unbeatable on the day—and his name is Joe Frangione!

There is a new kind of defensive rocket which anticipates the direction of an attacking war plane, "homes" on it, and destroys it.

Frangione was the rocket-like destroyer of nearly twenty attractive but dangerous attacking movements by Polonia.

Ably assisted by Marini and Picinich, Frangione protected Vitti and his net like a broody hen.

When the Polish newcomers settle into the side, Polonia will again be a power in the State League.

Box Hill took a major step away from the relegation zone by beating Yarra Park 2-0 at Port Melbourne. The game was marred at 80 minutes by spectators who rushed on to the pitch and attacked referee George Pedler and linesman Sam Wilson.

Yarra Park officials and players leaped into action, clearing the field and preventing a major disturbance, but the absence of police is to be deplored.

As far as the score was concerned, Wilhelmina led all the way to beat Moreland, but there was a 30-minute period after the interval in which the Dutchmen were in lots of trouble.

They recovered toward the end, and went on to regain their 3-goal half-time lead to win 5-2.

Footscray-Capri showed a lot of talent against George Cross, but appeared to be short of coaching and physical training.

Time and again, the players would start a good move, then fall back into error.

Then, after holding George Cross 1-2 at half-time, they ran out of gas in the second half, and lost 1-6.

Slavia always appeared to have the measure of J.U.S.T. in the second period, winning 2-0, and Hakoah, down to Geelong 0-1 at the turn, fought back to win 2-1.

This week's winners could be George Cross, Wilhelmina, Moreland, Juventus, and Polonia. We cannot separate Slavia and Hakoah, and will plump for a draw.

NEW COURSE FOR COACHES

Applications are being invited from anyone interested — players officials, or coaches requiring a refresher—to join a 12-week course that will cover the theory and practice of Coaching.

The course will be under the direction of Mr. Len. Young, official Coach of the V.A.S.F.A., and will commence on Thursday night, July 16, at 7.15.

Venue for the course will be the premises of the National Fitness Council in the A.N.Z. Bank Building, 161 Flinders Lane.

Discussion covering all aspects of the game, including Laws, will be held in the Lecture Room on the first floor.

For practical work with footballs, the gymnasium on the top floor is available.

It is expected that each session will last until 9.45 p.m.

Interested applicants should forward their names and private addresses at once to Mr. Len. Young, V.A.S.F.A., No. 1 Oval, Olympic Park, Swan Street, Melbourne.

OLYMPIC PARK FIXTURES

Saturday, July 4—
Slavia v. Hakoah.
Sunday, July 5—
Sunday International: Hungary v. Czechoslovakia and Malta v. Holland.
Saturday, July 11—
Hakoah v. George Cross.
Sunday, July 12—
Moreland v. Juventus.
Saturday, July 18—
George Cross v. Slavia.
Sunday, July 19—
Wilhelmina v. Hakoah.
Saturday, July 25—
Geelong v. George Cross.
Sunday, July 26—
J.U.S.T v. Juventus.

YNTEMA OUT

Rein Yntema, former State and Wilhelmina centre-forward, was suspended for four matches by the Disciplinary Committee last week for playing in Sydney League matches without a clearance.

Mr. J. van Hoboken, President of Wilhelmina, spoke on behalf of the player, and stated that Yntema had been assured by both the Sydney-Austral club and Federation officials that he could play legally.

The Disciplinary Committee took the view that Yntema knew that he was acting incorrectly.

In announcing the penalty, the Committee stated through the Chairman, that if it had felt that the player had acted maliciously in the matter, the penalty would have been far greater; but his known character and record were so much in his favour, a nominal penalty would suffice, the Committee added.

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LAST WEEK

STATE LEAGUE

Slavia d. J.U.S.T., 2-0.
Hakoah d. Geelong, 2-1.
George Cross d. Footscray, 6-1.
Wilhelmina d. Moreland 5-2.
Box Hill d. Yarra Park, 2-0.
Juventus d. Polonia, 2-0.

State League Reserves

Slavia d. J.U.S.T., 4-1.
Hakoah drew with Geelong, 1-1.
George Cross drew with Footscray, 1-1.
Wilhelmina d. Moreland 2-0.
Box Hill d. Yarra Park, 5-1.
Polonia d. Juventus, 2-1.

METROPOLITAN NORTH

First Division

Lions/Hayduk d. Sunshine City, 3-0.
Croatia drew with Preston, 1-1.
Coburg drew with Maccabbi, 2-2.
Corio d. Sicilia, 1-0.
Hellenic d. Brunswick, 7-0.

Second Division

Fairfield d. Essendon, 4-2.
Heidelberg d. Collingwood, 3-1.
Moonee Ponds d. I.C.I. 1-0.
University d. Williamstown, 6-1.
Fiorentina drew with St. Albans, 0-0.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH

First Division

Brighton d. Park Rangers, 2-0.
South Melbourne d. Vic. Police, 4-1.
Dandenong d. South Yarra, 7-2.
Richmond d. Yallourn, 3-1.
Melbourne d. Prahran, 5-0.

Second Division

Bayswater d. Austria, 4-3.
Sandringham d. Ferntree Gully, 2-1.
Moorabbin d. Rosebud, 2-1.
Frankston d. F.N.D., 4-1.
Croydon d. Oakleigh, 1-0.

First Division Reserves

SECTION "A"

Brighton d. Park Rangers, 5-0.
Dandenong d. South Yarra, 4-2.
Richmond d. Yallourn, 5-2.
Melbourne d. Prahran, 12-2.
South Melbourne, bye.

First Division Reserves

SECTION "B"

Fiorentina d. Hellenic, 3-0.
Frankston d. University, 5-0.
Maccabbi d. Coburg, 4-2.
Preston d. Sandringham, 2-0.
Lions/Hayduk d. Sunshine City, 3-1.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Olympia d. Melita, 2-1.
Bendigo d. Hollandia, 6-4.
North Richmond d. Makedonia, 2-1.
Seymour d. Yarraville, 4-1.
Trident drew with Norlane-Olympia, 4-4.

DOCKERTY CUP (First Round Re-play)

Oakleigh d. Fiorentina, 3-1.
(After extra time. 90 mins., 1-1).

This Week

STATE LEAGUE & STATE LEAGUE RESERVES

George Cross v. J.U.S.T.
Slavia v. Hakoah.
Wilhelmina v. Footscray.
Box Hill v. Moreland.
Juventus v. Yarra Park.
Polonia v. Geelong.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.

First Division.

Hellenic v. Sicilia.
Corio v. Coburg.
Maccabbi v. Croatia.
Preston v. Lions/Hayduk.
Sunshine City v. Brunswick.

Second Division.

St. Albans v. University.
Williamstown v. I.C.I.
Moonee Ponds v. Collingwood.
Heidelberg v. Essendon.
Fairfield v. Fiorentina.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

First Division.

Melbourne v. Yallourn.
Richmond v. Dandenong.
South Yarra v. Sth. Melbourne.
Vic. Police v. Brighton.
Park Rangers v. Prahran.

Second Division.

Croydon v. Frankston.
Rosebud v. Ferntree Gully.
Sandringham v. Bayswater.
Austria v. Oakleigh.

First Division Reserves.
Section "A"

Yallourn v. Melbourne.
Dandenong v. Richmond.
Sth. Melbourne v. South Yarra.
Brighton, bye.
Prahran v. Park Rangers.

First Division Reserves.
Section "B"

Lions/Hayduk v. Preston.
Sandringham v. Maccabbi.
Coburg v. Frankston.
University v. Hellenic.
Fiorentina v. Sunshine City.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE.

Norlane Olympia v. Seymour.
Yarraville v. North Richmond.
Makedonia v. Hollandia.
Bendigo v. Olympia.
Melita v. Trident.

LAIDLAW WORLD CUP.

Sunday, 1.30 p.m.:
Hungary v. Czechoslovakia.
3.00 p.m.:
Malta v. Holland.

NEXT WEEK

STATE LEAGUE

J.U.S.T. v. Wilhelmina.
Hakoah v. George Cross.
Geelong v. Slavia.
Footscray v. Box Hill.
Moreland v. Juventus.
Yarra Park v. Polonia.

DOCKERTY CUP

SECOND ROUND

Brighton v. Preston.
Maccabbi v. Croatia.
Dandenong v. Austria.
South Melbourne v. Corio.
Essendon v. I.C.I.
Coburg v. Moorabbin.
Vic. Police v. Melbourne.
Heidelberg v. Lions/Hayduk.
St. Albans v. Sunshine City.
Yallourn v. South Yarra.
Sandringham v. University.
Ferntree Gully v. Bayswater.
Seymour v. Park Rangers.
Bendigo v. Moonee Ponds.
Hellenic or Oakleigh.
Prahran v. F.N.D.

ARMSTRONG CUP

SECOND ROUND

Richmond v. Juventus.
Polonia v. Fiorentina.
Brighton v. Hakoah.
Melbourne v. Moreland.
Yallourn v. Wilhelmina.
Box Hill v. Slavia.
J.U.S.T. v. Geelong.
George Cross v. Footscray.

★ ★ ★

Changes Noted at Box Hill

Box Hill's committee has appointed two members to replace Mr. J. McPherson, who resigned from the club's secretaryship recently.

Mr. Brian Moss, of 5 Parkside Avenue, Box Hill, E.11, is the new Secretary. He can be contacted by phone at WX 9300 evenings after 6 o'clock.

Mr. McPherson's resignation also brought about the appointment of a new delegate to the State League Management Committee.

He is Mr. D. Paton, of 9 Denmark Street, Kew.

HOW THEY STAND

STATE LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Wilhelmina	12	9	1	2	57	25	19
George Cross	12	8	3	1	32	15	19
Slavia	12	8	2	2	31	18	18
Hakoah	12	8	2	2	27	17	18
Juventus	12	8	1	3	28	14	17
J.U.S.T.	12	5	3	4	32	22	13
Polonia	12	3	5	4	17	24	11
Moreland	12	4	1	7	37	31	9
Geelong	12	2	3	7	18	29	7
Box Hill	12	3	1	8	13	36	7
Yarra Park	12	1	1	10	20	50	3
Footscray	12	0	3	9	20	51	3

State League Reserves

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Wilhelmina	11	9	2	0	44	10	20
Hakoah	11	9	1	1	36	14	19
Geelong	11	6	1	4	26	17	13
J.U.S.T.	11	6	0	5	30	22	12
Polonia	11	4	4	3	14	16	12
Juventus	11	5	1	5	27	17	11
Box Hill	11	5	1	5	28	21	11
Moreland	11	4	3	4	22	18	11
Footscray	11	3	2	6	14	26	8
George Cross	11	3	2	6	19	31	8
Slavia	11	2	2	7	21	38	6
Yarra Park	11	0	1	10	3	54	1

METROPOLITAN LEAGUES

NORTH

First Division.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goa's F.	A.	P.
Lions/Hayduk	9	7	0	2	28	8	14
Croatia	9	6	2	1	28	13	14
Preston	9	6	1	2	28	9	13
Sunshine City	9	5	0	4	22	15	10
Hellenic	9	5	0	4	22	20	10
Sicilia	9	3	2	4	18	17	8
Coburg	9	3	2	4	17	20	8
Maccabbi	9	3	1	5	18	24	7
Corio	9	3	0	6	10	19	6
Brunswick	9	0	0	9	6	52	0

Second Division.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Fiorentina	9	7	1	1	27	9	15
University	9	7	1	1	30	15	15
Moonee Ponds	9	7	0	2	29	14	14
Essendon	9	5	0	4	18	19	10
Heidelberg	9	4	0	5	16	27	8
I.C.I.	9	3	1	5	21	27	7
Collingwood	9	3	1	5	22	26	7
Fairfield	9	2	2	5	17	20	6
Williamstown	9	2	1	6	15	25	5
St. Albans	9	1	1	7	13	26	3

SOUTH

First Division.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Melbourne	9	9	0	0	69	12	18
Richmond	9	7	0	2	37	7	14
Sth Melbourne	9	6	0	3	27	13	12
Ya'lourn	9	6	0	3	36	21	12
Brighton	9	6	0	3	28	13	12
Dandenong	9	4	0	5	25	31	8
Prahran	9	2	1	6	14	36	5
South Yarra	9	2	0	7	11	35	4
Park Rangers	9	2	0	7	13	42	4
Vic. Police	9	0	1	8	7	52	1

Second Division.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Sandringham C.	9	8	1	0	23	13	17
Oakleigh	9	5	2	2	18	10	12
Frankston	9	5	2	2	28	18	12
Austria	9	5	1	3	36	25	11
Bayswater	9	4	3	2	23	20	11
Moorabbin	10	3	3	4	23	30	9
F.N.D.	10	3	2	5	23	31	8
Ferntree Gully	9	3	0	6	26	18	6
Rosebud	9	3	0	6	21	26	6
Croydon	9	0	0	9	14	44	0

First Division Reserves.

Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Melbourne	9	7	1	1	52	17	15
Richmond	9	7	1	1	32	14	15
Dandenong	9	7	0	2	28	16	14
Yallourn	9	4	3	2	30	19	11
South Melbourne	9	5	0	4	22	29	10
Brighton	9	4	1	4	25	21	9
Park Rangers	9	4	1	4	18	18	9
South Yarra	9	2	1	6	13	31	5
Prahran	9	1	0	8	9	64	2

First Division Reserves.

Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Lions/Hayduk	9	7	1	1	28	8	15
Sunshine City	9	7	0	2	24	13	14
Preston	9	5	3	1	30	14	13
Coburg	9	5	1	3	20	14	11
Fiorentina	9	5	0	4	26	18	10
Frankston	9	4	2	3	25	18	10
Maccabbi	9	4	0	5	28	24	8
Sandringham	9	2	0	7	11	25	4
Hellenic	9	2	0	7	14	36	4
University	9	0	1	8	6	42	1

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Norlane-Olympia	9	6	3	0	28	12	15
Seymour	9	6	2	1	23	9	14
Makedonia	9	5	2	2	20	11	12
North Richmond	8	4	3	1	29	14	11
Olympia	9	5	0	4	24	14	10
Trident	9	3	3	3	21	19	9
Melita	9	3	2	4	22	28	8
Bendigo	8	2	2	4	18	24	6
Hollandia	9	1	9	8	24	34	2
Yarraville	9	0	1	8	3	47	1

TABLES COMPILED

by

STUART BEATON

Secretary-Manager

V.A.S.F.A.

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LIONS TAKE LEAD ON GOALS IN NORTH

Get Mighty Assist from Preston

Lions scored their seventh win, 3-0, against Sunshine City last week and replaced Croatia at the top of the ladder on goal average.

The leap of the Lions from third to first position received a powerful assist from Preston, who forced Croatia to split the points in a 1-1 draw.

This week, Preston may reverse the process and hunt the Lions out of first place, and allow Croatia, a likely winner against Maccabi, to go back to the lead.

However, nothing can be certain in this league of surprises. Maccabi's 2-all draw with Coburg last week could spell trouble for Croatia.

With Sunshine City and Hellenic not far behind, the whole picture at the top of the ladder, which looked like a private 3-club war last week, could change to include one or two more challengers.

A point of interest here is the fact that each of the three leaders has scored 28 goals in the nine matches to date.

Lions are on top because of a tight defence that has yielded only 8 goals this season, one less than Preston, and five less than Croatia.

This could be a pointer for the second half of the season — Lions could make the State League on superior defensive ability rather than scoring ability.

FIRST DIVISION REVIEW

From now on, a great deal of interest will be taken in what is going on at the other end of the ladder.

Luckless Brunswick looks like a certainty for relegation, but with only two points separating the four clubs immediately senior to the wooden-spooner, there will be a lot of jitters and misgivings before the position of a relegation running-mate for Brunswick is clarified.

RICHMOND GRIMLY HOLDS SECOND PLACE

Richmond went down to Gippsland last week and duelled grimly for the right to hold second place at the turn of the season.

The visitors succeeded in neutralising Yallourn's home-ground advantage, and won 3-1.

They are still 4 points behind undefeated leader, Melbourne, however, and looking around for assistance to close the gap. Unfortunately for the trailers, it appears that, as long as Melbourne can field a team of 11 players, they are in no danger of defeat.

As in the North section of this Division, there will be strong competition between several clubs—Prahran, South Yarra, and Park Rangers—to fight their way clear of the relegation zone.

The task in front of the tail-enders in this league appears to be more difficult than that of those in the North section, however, since there is more power in the top half here.

The total goals scored in this section is the highest of any of the four Metropolitan Leagues—267. That of the First Division North is only 196, lowest of the four leagues.

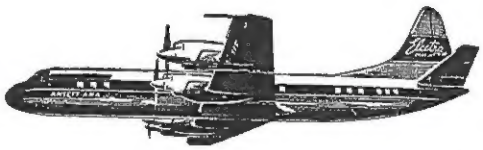
★ ★ ★

PRAISE FOR CLUBS

Sir,—Congratulations on the last issue (27/6/59) of "Soccer News"—it's simply beautiful!

Do you keep a list of honour for clubs? If so, put Trident and Norlane Olympia on it. Although the ground was in a shocking condition yesterday, the behaviour and fairness of all the players were perfect. It was a pleasure for me to act as referee.—Yours, etc.,

JOHANN DUERBOECK.



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SECOND DIVISION REVIEW

Austria's Pivot Injured

Austria feels that, despite their loss to Bayswater, they were the better team on the day, but handicapped by an injury to their centre-half, Kurt Falle.

★ ★ ★

Bill Bould made a come-back last Saturday when he played his first game with Sandringham in two years. He did a creditable job out on the right wing.

BAYSWATER SHOCKS AUSTRIA IN SOUTH

Austria dropped from second to fourth position on the ladder and may have lost its chance for promotion when it was narrowly beaten 4-3 by Bayswater.

Austria's surprise defeat helped Sandringham to increase its lead to 5 points over Oakleigh, which moved into second place with a 1-0 win over Croydon.

Sandringham is still undefeated, and has been strengthened by the inclusion of ex-Brighton full-back, Norm. Stansfield.

The Hammers beat Ferntree Gully 2-1 last week, bringing to five the number of wins the leaders have scored by the odd goal.

Sandringham gives much credit for their winning run to young Australian-born goalkeeper, Len Hayball, whose efforts have earned the applause of his opponents in nearly every game. Last Saturday, Len. again brought off several magnificent saves to keep his team in front, and his distribution of the ball to his team-mates was considered to be of representative class.

Frankston moved into third place with a comfortable 4-1 win over F.N.D., and are equal on points with Oakleigh.

Centre of interest this week is the clash between Austria and Oakleigh, and neither can afford to lose.

In spite of Bayswater's creditable win over Austria, Sandringham is expected to maintain its unbeaten record in today's game.

Ferntree Gully meets Rosebud and could avenge an earlier defeat by the Baysiders.

★ ★ ★

A Croydon supporter writes to explain the disastrous defeat suffered by the club's Under 16's (South) at the hands of Dandenong. Three regular key defenders—the goalkeeper, the left-back, and the centre-half — were absent. Is it any wonder Dandenong won 11-0?

TAILENDERS UPSET LEADERS IN NORTH

Leader, Fiorentina, was brought back to the field, and Essendon was possibly deprived of its chance to figure in the promotional battle, when tail-enders, St. Albans and Fairfield, sprung surprises last week.

St. Albans fought out a scoreless draw with Fiorentina, and Fairfield downed Essendon 4-2.

These results allowed University, 6-1 winner over Williamstown, to join Fiorentina at the top with 15 points, leaving Essendon 5 points down.

Moonee Ponds is only 1 point behind the leaders after a narrow 1-0 win over I.C.I., and is still in the fight for divisional rise with the joint leaders.

Heidelberg leap-frogged Collingwood and I.C.I. into fifth place on the table when it beat Collingwood 3-1, but its run of success is probably coming too late.

Last week's surprise packets get another chance to turn the same trick against the leaders today.

St. Albans tackles University, and Fairfield meets Fiorentina, and the soundness of last week's form will be thoroughly tested.

St. Albans and Fairfield will have home-ground advantage and nothing to lose, whereas University and Fiorentina will have outright leadership on their minds, and could be nervously tentative in their approach to today's task.

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FACTS and FLY-KICKS

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PRESTON HAS A HEART!

First Division club, Preston, has added another well-known name to its list of patrons — recent visitor, Tommy Walker from Scottish International, who is now Secretary-Manager of Heart of Midlothian.

It all came about through the coach of Preston's Under 16 side, Andy Johnston.

Andy was a Hearts Junior himself many years ago, before he left to play in England for Reading. Naturally, he contacted his old team-mates when they were here a few weeks ago.

After several conversations, Tommy said he would be delighted and honoured to have his name added to those of Preston's other two patrons—Mr. Arpad Csanardi, Manager of Ferencvaros of Hungary, and Mr. Jack Skolnik, President of Hakoah and a patron of the V.A.S.F.A

Home-ground advantage played no part in last week's State League matches. All six "away" teams copped the points.

★ ★ ★

A replay of the match between North Richmond and Bendigo, played a couple of weeks ago and drawn 2-2, has been ordered by the Disciplinary Committee.

North Richmond protested the result on an unusual technicality, and the protest was upheld.

Grounds for the protest were as follows:—The referee awarded Bendigo a free kick for "hands" outside the penalty area, and signalled for an indirect free. When the ball landed in the net without obstruction, the referee ordered a goal-kick. After the ball had been kicked down-field, he realized that a direct free kick should have been awarded. He stopped the play, signalled a goal for Bendigo, and re-started play with a kick-off from the centre.

Since an indirect free kick had been signalled and North Richmond had been denied an opportunity to defend against a direct free, the protest was upheld, and a replay was ordered as the fairest disposition of the match.

* * *

Colin Brady took the field for South Melbourne United last Saturday for the first time since he was injured playing for Ireland against Scotland in their World Cup match at Olympic Park on May 24.

★ ★ ★

Olympia, who beat Melita 2-1 in the Provisional League last Saturday, write in to say that the referee who controlled the game was the best one ever supplied by the Association. But they forgot to mention his name, and we are unable to credit him here. Pity!

★ ★ ★

Bayswater swear that they will win every match in the second round. That includes you, undefeated Sandringham! On guard!

★ ★ ★

This is strange. Richmond only fields two teams, but they play six goalkeepers every Saturday — Bartkowiak, Miler, Lange, Markgraf, Haussler, and Johannsen. They are beginning to refer to themselves as "The Goalkeepers' Club."

★ ★ ★

"Sun" sports editors "chop" soccer stories mercilessly and regularly, and very often a vital paragraph hits the waste-paper basket. Morrie Buckner is complaining about last Monday's mutilated review, particularly because one of the pars that went down the drain gave Yarra Park officials and players credit for quick action which ended the spectator shemozzle at Port Melbourne and which encouraged referee, George Pedler, to allow the match to go on.

★ ★ ★

Beaten 2-4 by Fairfield last week, Essendon are all praise for their opponents, saying that Fairfield's improved and forceful approach to goal was just too good for Essendon's defence. No excuse, no winges. But we happen to know that Essendon's centre-half, Barry Matthews, was hurt early in the game, and simply couldn't play up to his best form.

★ ★ ★

When Malta takes the field against Holland in this week's Sunday League attraction, the players will be wearing a brand-new set of jerseys. The jerseys, and a complete set of track suits—all in the colours of the club —were presented to the club by its host of enthusiastic supporters, who contributed the vital £ s. d.

ON THE BALL

Migrants who want information which is right "on the ball" — correct and up-to-date — should call at the Migrant Information Service, Commonwealth Bank, 363-371 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Information is provided FREE on such subjects as housing, employment, education, finance or any other subject of interest to migrants.

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NEW PATTERN FOR SOCCER NEWS

The State Council has selected the style of this edition of SOCCER NEWS as its permanent format, and has appointed Mr. Morrie Buckner as its Editor.

When I was appointed as full-time Secretary of the V.A.S.F.A., it was felt that the production of "Soccer News" could be one of my duties.

Since the beginning of last season, the Council — and I — have learned that the production of a weekly journal is a fair-sized undertaking, even when it contains a minimum of pages and general news matter.

To have a COMPLETE weekly, with news from all the Committees, the Leagues, and the Clubs, carefully written and edited and tastefully presented, it becomes a major operation which requires an experienced publications man who is a journalist in charge.

With all my other duties as Secretary—the many meetings, the problems of 62 clubs fielding 94 teams, the minutes, the accounts, the preparations for international tours and interstate visits, the registration and transfer of players, and a hundred other things—the task of producing a first-class weekly in keeping with the growing prestige of our Association, was beyond me.

Last March an open meeting, to which anyone who was interested was invited, was held. Only 12 club delegates attended, but many constructive proposals were discussed.

The general feeling appeared to favour a magazine-type weekly, containing a full coverage of sectional news, and the appointment of an experienced Editor.

The Council has now ratified the feeling of that meeting and has selected as Editor Morrie Buckner, with whose work in 1955, 1956, and 1957 you must all be familiar, and this issue and that of last week are his productions.

During the period in which I was Editor, I had the pleasure of making many new contacts without whose support I would not have been able to carry on as long as I did.

I ask them to accept my sincere gratitude, and I trust that the same support will be forthcoming for the new Editor.

"Best Use of Park" Confirmed

In last week's "Soccer News," we ventured our suggestions for the best use—the most advantageous for all concerned—of Olympic Park.

Everything in that article rested on the accuracy or falsity of this premise . . . "the best use to be made of Olympic Park is to play there the best games available."

Almost as living and immediate proof of that contention, we have last Sunday's class thriller between Juventus and Polonia. Here are the figures:—

Attendance 9,000
The Gate £1,500

If these figures can be maintained as an average, every conceivable section of our sport MUST benefit—all the clubs, the spectators, the standard of the code in Victoria, and the Park Trustees.

A special joint meeting of the Council and the State League Management has been called for next Tuesday night, July 7, to go into the matter.

★ ★ ★

REMEMBER the rider on the white horse at the 1923 F.A. Cup Final? Amongst the thousands of applications for tickets for this year's final between Notts Forest and Luton Town, no less than a dozen applicants claimed to be the rider of the horse in that famous incident.

STUART BEATON
Tells You All About It

Melbourne Gets Asst. Secretary

Melbourne's club business must have beaten Vic. Manson's efforts to keep up with it—they are now keeping an Assistant Secretary occupied. He is Mr. Joe Racz, of 2 Marina Road, Mentone. His day-time phone number is FU 8891, and at night he can be reached at XF 1507.

★ ★ ★

Mr. S. Hettler has been appointed Secretary of Corio, following the resignation of Mr. Beatz. Mr. Hettler's address is 120 Sparks Road, Norlane, Geelong, and his telephone is Geelong U 1328.

★ ★ ★

Mr. Kurt Baumberger, of 19 Gourlay Street, St. Kilda, is the new Secretary of Austria, replacing Mr. Schobesberger.

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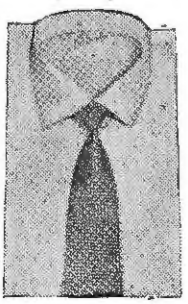

NEWS MEN TILT AT MOONBEAMS

Suspended Sentences "Under Fire"

Sometimes one can be forgiven for thinking that when soccer reporters and feature writers run out of news, they look around for something at which they can sound off.

This kind of tilt at a moonbeam serves two purposes — it caters to one's own ego, and it fills space.

Sometimes there is a third purpose — to prod around in the hope of stirring up some trouble, and presto —then you have some bona-fide news.

Owen Howard's blast in last week's "Sporting Globe" at the suspended sentences dealt out this season by the Disciplinary Committee—a story picked up and elaborated in Sydney's Sunday Telegraph—can only be labelled a dream-piece, and in the form in which it was printed, it falls flat on its pink face.

It cannot do otherwise, since it makes a lot of assertions about players and clubs WITHOUT DOCUMENTING A SINGLE NAME OR CASE!

Describing a player under the "bond" of a suspended sentence as a "marked man," and stating that he "is niggled and jostled on the field and becomes timid" is provable nonsense—at least until a single case can be proven otherwise.

To say that suspended sentences "have caused resentment in a majority of clubs" is also provable nonsense—not a single club has voiced a protest.

The fact is that the suspended sentence is used only in cases which involve minor misbehaviour, where the player concerned is a first offender with a clean record of three years or more, or where he acted in self-defence under unbearable provocation.

If he pleads guilty, or the case against him is proven, he must be made to realize that, although his previous good behaviour is in his favour, a repetition of his misconduct would not be tolerated.

To tell him to consider himself reprimanded is merely a waste of time and words — it leaves no impression on the player.

On the other hand, to inflict an actual suspension for a minor misdemeanor on a player with years of clean play behind him, unnecessarily punishes both the clean player and his club, and smells of harshness.

To inflict a suspended sentence in such cases serves the game best — it leaves an impression on the player, he is pleased and proud that his past good record has been taken into account, and he leaves the Committee determined not to allow his temper free rein again if he can possibly help it.

The suspended sentence is commonly used in civil law to help keep the naturally honest man honest.

It is being used in soccer to help keep the naturally clean player clean.

ALL-ROUNDER

This is Mr. Theo Marmaras, President of Hellenic Soccer Club, Member of the State Council of the V.A.S.F.A., President of the Victorian Fish Wholesalers' Association, and a prominent member of Victoria's Greek community. A busy man, but his response to any reasonable demand upon his time is never "no."

THE PROVINCIAL LEAGUES

NORTHERN VICTORIA

Puckapunyal and Gunbower are undefeated to hold first and second places respectively in the Northern Victoria A.S.F.A.

Fixtures difficulties are evident in the variation in the number of games played.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Puckapunyal ..	6	5	1	0	23	4	11
Gunbower ..	5	4	1	0	10	4	9
Tongala	9	3	3	3	18	17	9
Orange Lions	8	4	1	3	25	15	9
Seymour	9	3	2	4	16	19	8
Bendigo	8	3	0	5	13	14	6
Echuca	5	0	0	5	1	25	0
Torrumbary .	2	0	0	2	2	9	0

GEELONG DISTRICT

Scottish S.C. has finally met with defeat in the Geelong District A.S.F.A.

Runner-up Macedonia scored the win, and is now only one point behind the leader.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	P.
Scottish . ..	9	7	1	1	40	9	15
Macedonia ..	8	7	0	1	49	9	14
Zagreb	9	6	0	3	25	12	12
British	9	6	0	3	39	22	12
D.S.G. 1	9	5	0	4	17	26	10
Corio 1	9	4	0	5	23	31	8
Croatia	8	3	1	4	22	15	7
Olympia	9	2	0	7	16	41	4
Corio 2	9	2	0	7	8	36	4
D.S.G. 2	9	1	0	8	3	58	2

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MAIL-BAG

Sir,—First may I congratulate you and the staff of "Soccer News" (sic) for the splendid production of this weekly magazine. Secondly, I would like to see the following news about football in Malta in "Soccer News" for the information of the soccer public and for the many Maltese supporters:—

Division 1 Champions: Valetta City.
Division 2 Champions: St. George's.
Cessar Cup Final: Valetta 2 d. Hamrun Spartans 1.
F.A. Trophy Final: Valetta 1 drew with Sliema Wanderers 1 (after extra time).
F.A. Trophy Final Replay: Sliema Wanderers 1 d. Valetta 0.

MALTESE SOCCER FAN.

★ ★ ★

Sir,—It is regrettable that in its first issue under a new editor "Soccer News" should publish news which is other than fact.

I refer to the case of the South Melbourne United Under 12 player who, according the "Soccer News," was sent off the field for disputing the referee's decision.

Here are the correct facts: The player received a friendly chat and was warned four times before getting an official caution for passing remarks about the referee's decisions.

He was later sent off for allegedly kicking an opponent deliberately.

It does not matter whether a boy is 12 or 18—he must learn to observe the rules of the game and be a good sportsman.—Yours, etc.,

DON JOINER.

★ ★ ★

Sir,—I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the "Sporting Globe" soccer reports, and the Soccer Round-up as described by Mr. J. Oliphant and Mr. Glen Millens, never correspond.

I think that the only true reports on the games are those given by these two gentlemen. The mistakes in the "Globe" are very obvious, and it is time they were rectified, or new reporters given the job.

Take the issue of June 20: Alan Witney, who reported the game Slavia v. Footscray, missed part of the game after half-time.

The report by Duncan McDougall on Hakoah v. J.U.S.T. did not give a fair account of what some of the players did for their teams that day. The few who got a mention in his write-up were not the same as those mentioned by Mr. Oliphant and Mr. Millens.

Fair play is our motto.—Yours, etc.

DISGUSTED.

[If "fair play" is your motto, Mr. Disgusted, you will change your views to some extent about the "Globe" writers, without prejudice to the radio commentators. Firstly, the reports in the "Globe" are first-hand eye-witness reports from impartial reporters. Most of the radio reports are second-hand, and come from club partisans. As for printing errors, transpositions, omissions, wrong spellings, etc., in the "Globe," remember this. The games usually end at 4.40 p.m. The reporter has to race to a phone some distance away to get his story in by 5 p.m. It is "set," plated. slapped on to the giant rotaries, AND ON THE STREET BY 6 p.m.—a colossal job of organization. But there is no time for proofing or correction of these last-minute reports—and neither the reporter nor the newspaper should be blamed. As for which reporter is right—the newspaper or the radio, no two people see the same thing alike.—EDITOR.]

★ ★ ★

Sir,—Let me congratulate those concerned for the new "Soccer News"—it is the best magazine I have seen about soccer.

The World of Soccer with Jim Cook is really worth reading.—Yours, etc.,

CHARLIE BUTTIGIEG.

THE JUNIORS

The usual budget of Junior News, ladders, and fixtures were not received in time for this issue, and will re-appear when available.

★ ★ ★

Two undefeated Under 16 sides from different sections met last Saturday. They were Sunshine City (Section "A") and Moorabbin (Section "B"). They are still undefeated—the result was a 0-0 draw!

★ ★ ★

Trials will be held at Middle Park, Sunday, July 5, the Under 18's at St. Kilda Ground, and the Under 14's at South Melbourne Ground. Teams may send not more than 4 of their best players; players to meet on the grounds at 1 p.m.

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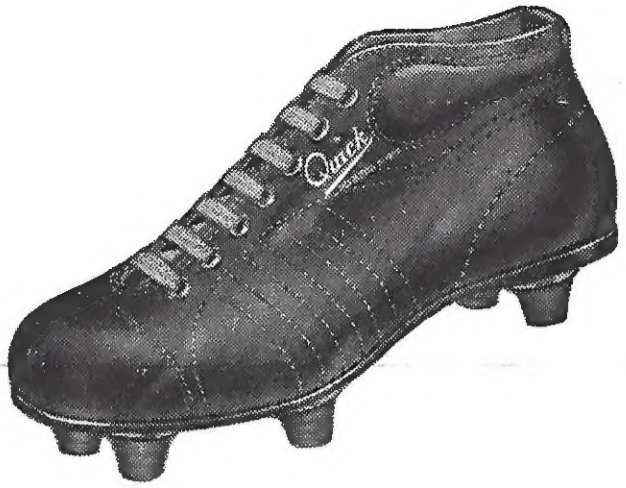

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